

BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS MEETING MINUTES

The Virginia Board for Branch Pilots met on Thursday, April 30, 2009, at the Virginia Port Authority, Virginia International Terminal Board Room, 600 World Trade Center, Norfolk, Virginia, with the following members present:

Captain Robert H. Callis, III
Bruce R. Cherry
Captain J. William Cofer
Captain Milton B. Edmunds
Thomas P. Host, III
William M. Martin, III
Douglas E. Miller
Captain John A. Morgan, Jr.
Meade G. Stone, Jr.

Staff present for the meeting were:

Jay DeBoer, Director
Mark N. Courtney, Deputy Director of Licensing and Regulation
Kathleen R. Nosbisch, Executive Director

Cynthia Norwood was present from the Office of the Attorney General.

Finding a quorum of the Board present, Mr. Cherry, President, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Mr. Stone moved to approve the agenda. Captain Callis seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Host, Martin, Miller, Morgan, and Stone.

Approval of Agenda

Captain Callis moved to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2009, Board Meeting. Mr. Host seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Host, Martin, Miller, Morgan, and Stone.

Approval of Minutes

Discussion was held regarding proposed regulation changes from the Chemical Testing Committee. Captain Cofer explained that the Virginia Pilot Association is currently going by Federal guidelines at testing 30% over a calendar year for prescription and illegal drugs. Mr. Miller suggested a process that if you have not had a drug test in the preceding 24 months, you must submit to a random test with license renewal, to be added to 18VAC45-20-20 in lieu of proposed language.

Regulatory Review

Mr. Stone requested a report from the Virginia Pilot Association, names redacted, on the number of tests that have been conducted in the past two years.

Mr. Miller moved to table the discussion until further review. Mr. Stone seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Host, Martin, Miller, Morgan, and Stone.

Changes to the Authorization for Release of Health Information and the Drug and Alcohol Testing forms were recommended. Ms. Norwood of the Attorney General's office is to revise the language on these forms.

Captain Callis provided the Board with a report of the examinations conducted by the Examination Administrators on April 30, 2009. The following report was made:

**Exam
Administration
Report**

Joseph R. McKnew

Captain McKnew answered oral questions related to the raise in grade. The subjects included safe anchorages in Lynnhaven and Sewell's Point, overtaking situations, limitations of navigation equipment, safe vessel speed and under keel clearance. Captain McKnew stood a good examination and was found to be qualified. Captain Callis moved that Captain McKnew be raised from the Golf classification (50,000 gross tons and 42 feet maximum draft) to the Hotel classification (60,000 gross tons and 46 feet maximum draft). Mr. Host seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Host, Martin, Miller, Morgan, and Stone.

Ms. Nosbisch commented on the 2009 National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) North East Zone meeting held in Norfolk, April 17 through 18, reporting that retired branch pilot Captain George Watkins was a guest speaker at the meeting and gave an entertaining and comprehensive overview of the history of the Virginia Pilots.

Other Business

Conflict of Interest forms were completed by all members present.

**Conflict of Interest
Forms**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Adjourn

Bruce R. Cherry, President

Jay W. DeBoer, Secretary